implementation of laws for restricting use of loudspeaker and high volume producing system dated 18th July, 2005, some representations were received from State Governments including from the Government of Gujarat alongwith the Motion passed on 14th September, 2005 by Gujarat Legislature. Looking at the diversity of cultures and religions in India, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its subsequent order has observed that a limited power of exemption from the operation of the Rules granted by the Central Government in exercise of its statutory power cannot be held unreasonable and the power to grant exemption is conferred on the State Government. The Hon'ble Court, further, has observed that the State Governments should notify in advance the number and particulars of the days on which such exemptions would be operative.

Fund for Forest Sector Development in Orissa by JBIC

2314. SHRI B. J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Japan Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC) has sanctioned Rs. 560 crores for various projects under the Orissa Forest Sector Development Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the project aims at promoting sustainable forest management and enhances poverty alleviation in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARIAN MEENA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir, Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project is being implemented with the Loan Assistance from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). The project duration is 7 years starting from 2006-07 to 2012-13. The total cost of the project is 659.75 crore, including Rs. 100.08 crores as state share. This project aims at promoting sustainable Forest Management and Poverty Alleviation in the State. The components of the project, *inter alia*, include Sustainable Management of Natural

Forests, Afforestation and Natural Regeneration of Degraded Forests, Backyard/Farm Forestry, Wildlife Management and Biodiversity Conservation and Tribal and Community Development.

Pollution in Ganga and its tributaries in Uttar Pradesh

2315. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the industries polluting river Ganga and its tributaries, particularly in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the details of the remedial action taken/proposed to be taken against these industries polluting river Ganga and its tributaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARIAN MEENA): (a) According to the report of Central Pollution Control Board, a total of 222 grossly polluting industries in Uttar Pradesh with a Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand load of more than 100 kilo gram per day, have been identified discharging effluent into river Ganga and its major tributaries. Out of these, 143 industries have installed effluent treatment plants and are operating satisfactorily, 43 industries have been closed down and 36 industries have been found defaulting and facing legal action under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

(b) The industrial pollution is tackled through the implementation of various provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The Central Pollution Control Board has also set up Minimal National Standards for different categories of polluting industries, which are implemented by the concerned State Board through regular monitoring system. Action plans for controlling pollution are submitted by the industries directly to the State Board for its monitoring. In case the industry fails to achieve the prescribed standards within the scheduled time-frame, closure notices are served on them as per the above environmental laws.